GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:691
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2005
KISAN CREDIT CARD
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government has received any complaints that various banks are avoiding providing credit cards cards to the poor farmers in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in order to ensure that the Kisan credit Cards are promptly issued to the needy farmers in rural areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) :

(a) to (c) With over 4.84 crore Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) having been issued in the country till February 2005, the scheme has made satisfactory progress. As and when complaints are received regarding non-issue of KCCs by individual bank branches, they are forwarded to the concerned banks for redressal. The banks have been advised, inter-alia, to take the following measures to further improve the coverage of Kisan Credit Cards :

(i) Mount publicity measures to popularise the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme.

(ii) Bring into KCC fold new farmers, and also existing farmers who are not covered under KCCs;

(iii) Issue suitable guidelines to their branches, so : , that crop loans are routed only through KCC;

(iv) Launch a time bound programme aimed at motivating non-wiilful defaulters to clear their dues so as to enable them to take benefit of the scheme;

(v) Include term loans for agriculture and allied activities, and a reasonable component of consumption credit, as per the revised KCC Scheme, etc.

(vi) implement the suggestions made by the National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in its study Report on KCC.